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ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



1960

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Mrs. E. Sumnall J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor A. J. Forrester

PUBLIC HEALTH AND PLANS COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor J. F. Lee
Vice-Chairman : Councillor D. J. Clayton

HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor J. Buckley
Vice-Chairman : Councillor R.H. Wheeldon

WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor D. E. Davies
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CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

J. E. R. Wilkinson

ACCOUNTANT AND DEPUTY CLERK

C. M. Taylor A.I.M.T.A.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A. McM. W. Segerdal M.D., D.P.H.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

C. S. Curtis M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H., DIP. P.H.H. (Hons)

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

H. Batteson A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

WATER ENGINEER AND ENGINEERING ASSISTANT

C. Mugglestone A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.H.

Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch,
Leicestershire.

August, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1960.

According to the Registrar General's estimate, the population has increased from 14,030 to 14,050.

The birth rate (14.2) is lower than last year (14.5) and lower than that for England and Wales (17.1).

The death rate (12.9) is higher than last year (12.2) and higher than that for England and Wales (11.5). The death rate of infants under one year is 29.8 compared with 19.7 in 1959, and England and Wales 21.7 and the still birth rate is 14.7 compared with 19.7 for England and Wales.

Of the 164 deaths during the year there were 7 deaths from all accidents and suicide. The chief causes of death, as has been the case for some years past, were from diseases associated with elderly people.

It will be noted that all the parishes, with the exception of Bardon have a piped supply of water. The scheme for boosting the existing supply to Farm Town area of Coleorton was carried out and chlorinating apparatus installed at Heather and Acresford was brought into operation.

There are 352 cesspools in the district and 17 cesspools were constructed and 4 abolished during the year. 38 closets were converted to the water carriage system during the year. During the year a Public Inquiry was held into the sewerage scheme for Newton Burgoland and Swepstone and approval obtained for the Atherstone Road scheme at Measham.

28 houses were completed during the year making a total of 959 houses completed in the post-war period, of which 672 houses were completed by the local authority.

The total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year was 267 and the number of applications received during the year was 64.

Implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 proceeded satisfactorily and no formal action has been necessary.

During the year 70 cases of infectious diseases were notified, Scarlet Fever 2, Whooping Cough 6, Dysentery 6, Measles 33, Pneumonia 17, Erysipelas 4, and Food Poisoning 2. There were 5 deaths from Pneumonia. The Dysentery, which was Sonnei was not severe, but occasioned a good deal of investigation. The 2 cases of Food Poisoning were probably not Food Poisoning but Salmonella Infection and investigations involved a tremendous amount of extra work which was most willingly done by Mr. Curtis and Mr. Batteson.

I am pleased to record that the number of children being immunised against Diphtheria still remains high and has increased during the year.

No new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year but there was one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Of the 15 cases removed from the Tuberculosis Register 10 were cured.

To the Staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council and to Doctor Mair, Director of the Public Health Laboratory, I wish to extend my thanks for their willing help and co-operation.

Finally I wish to thank Mr. C. S. Curtis, Surveyor and Public Health Inspector and Mr. H. Batteson, Additional Public Health Inspector, for their invaluable help during the year and you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. McM. W. Segerdal
M.D., D.P.H.

Private Residence

Belvoir Cottage,
Coalville,
Leicestershire.

Telephone Number
Coalville 144



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SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions

Area (in acres)	28,267
Resident Population (R.G's. estimate)	14,050
Number of inhabited houses	4,540
Rateable Value (1st. April 1960)	£ 156,106
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 604
Comparability factor - Births	1.00
Deaths	1.11

The chief industries in the area are agriculture; coal mining; brickmaking; stoneware and pipemaking and stone quarrying. There are also small textile works and light engineering works.

No particular industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on health during the year.

Vital Statistics

	<u>Rural</u> <u>District</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Live Births	201	
Live Birth rate	14.2	17.1
Still Births	3	
Still Birth rate per 1000 (live & still)	14.7	19.7
Total Births	204	
Infant Deaths	6	
Infantile Mortality rate per 1000 live Births	29.8	21.7
Infantile Mortality rate per 1000 legitimate Births	29.8	
Infantile Mortality rate per 1000 illegitimate Births	.0	
Neo-Natal Mortality rate (first four weeks) per 1000 related live births	19.9	15.6
Early Neo-Natal Mortality rate (first week) per 1000 related live births	19.9	
Perinatal Mortality rate (first week combined with still birth rate) per 1000 total live and still births	34.3	

	<u>Rural</u> <u>District</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Percentage of illegitimate live births	4.5	
Maternal deaths including abortion	.0	
Maternal mortality rate (including abortion) per 1000 total births	.0	0.39

Births

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births : Legitimate	97	95	192
Illegitimate	6	3	9
	<u>103</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>201</u>
Still Births : Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Total Births (Live and Still)	<u>104</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>204</u>
Deaths	<u>91</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>164</u>

Death rate per 1000 population 12.9

Death rate per 1000 population
England and Wales 11.5

Causes of Death during 1960

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	3	6
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	14	0	14
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	11	5	16
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	13	24
Coronary disease, angina	14	11	25
Other heart disease	10	8	18
Other circulatory disease	3	4	7
Pneumonia	0	5	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0	1
Bronchitis	9	3	12
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	0	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	0	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	0	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	10	14
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	2	3	5
	<u>91</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>164</u>

Chief causes of death were :

Disease of heart and circulation	74
Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (cancer)	42
Disease of respiratory system	19
Deaths from all accidents and suicide	7

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age

Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

Deaths of Infants under one week of age

Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Hospitals

All hospitals, except some private maternity and nursing homes are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

The County Homes for the aged and destitute are under the County Council. When the inmates take ill they become the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

Cheshire Home for the Sick

The home is the largest of the Cheshire Homes and is entirely voluntary and not under the Regional Hospital Board.

At the end of the year there were 42 patients, all chronic sick. During the year there were two deaths, but no deaths from Influenza.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

There are none actually in the district. Infant welfare clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist School, Ashby-de-la-Zouch and every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. At the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville an Ante-Natal clinic is available. The Chest clinic is held at Markfield Sanatorium under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance Facilities

The County Council is responsible for all facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and at Bath Yard, Moira.

Nursing in the Home

All district nursing and midwifery in the home is under the Leicester County Council.

Health Visiting

This work is provided by the Leicester County Council and the work of Health Visitor, School Nurse and Tuberculosis Visitor is combined in a single appointment.

The Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Diabetic Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and visits the patients in their homes on request.

Laboratory Facilities

Public Health Laboratory, Isolation
Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester

The following examinations were made :

Vaginal and Cervical Swabs	1
Faeces and urine	76
Sputa	50
Water	11
Ice Cream	5
Miscellaneous	2
	<hr/>
	145

Generally there is co-operation between the local authority and the services provided by the Executive Council and the hospital Board, and the tendency is towards closer integration.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply

Mains supplies have been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Particulars of water supplies to dwelling houses :

Internal Mains Water Supply		Mains Water from External standpipes		Well Water Supply	
No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population
4401	Est. 13,542	Est. 20	Est. 70	119	Est. 418

Number of parishes with piped water supply :

From public mains : 16 From private reservoirs : Nil

Number of parishes without a piped supply of water :

One (Bardon)

In 10 cases a piped supply of water has been substituted for well water.

A scheme for the boosting of the existing supply to Farm Town area, Coleorton was carried out during the year.

Chlorinating equipment was installed at Acresford and Heather pumping stations and brought into use during the year.

Water Supply from Wells

Number of Samples taken for Analysis			
Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
Chemical Nil	Bacteriological 1	Chemical Nil	Bacteriological 7

Sewage Disposal

Number of septic tanks constructed during the year	:	17
Number of cesspools abolished during the year	:	4
Number of septic tanks/cesspools in district at 31/12/60	:	352

Closet Accommodation

Total number in district on 31st December 1960

Privies	:	50	Pail Closets	:	910	W.Cs.	:	3871
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Number of closets converted to water carriage system during the year

Privies	:	Nil	Pails	:	38
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A grant of £10. 0. 0. or one half the cost, whichever is the lesser, is made towards the cost of conversion.

The contents of pails are emptied weekly and disposed of on to agricultural land and tips.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area

Total number of complaints received	83
Total number of premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with	72
Total number of defects or nuisances dealt with	180

Inspections made

Bakehouses	3
Dairies	4
Drainage Works	244
Dwelling houses	878
Infectious Diseases Inquiries	5
Food Poisoning Inquiries	29
Food Premises	159
Refuse Collection and Disposal	37
Rodent Control	(Carried out by Rodent Operator)
Schools	5
Shops	15
Slaughter-houses and Meat Inspection	356
Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.,	35
Verminous and Dirty Premises	1
Water Supplies	17
Factories and Workplaces	31
Other Inspections	512
	<hr/>
	2,331

Notices

Preliminary

	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>
Outstanding on 1st January, 1960	-	19
Issued during the year	-	96
Complied with during the year	-	92
Statutory action necessary	-	3
Outstanding 31st December, 1960	-	23

Statutory

Outstanding on 1st January, 1960	-	-
Issued during the year	-	3
Complied with during the year	-	3
Outstanding 31st December, 1960	-	-

Shops

Particulars of action taken during the year under the Provisions of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950.

	Defects Found	Defects Remedied
Sanitary conveniences	1	1
Ventilation	1	1

Regulated Buildings

	<u>Number in District</u>	<u>Number of Inspections</u>
Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.,	12	35
Eradication of Bed bugs	:	No action necessary.
Pet Animal Act, 1951	:	No premises in area.
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	:	Routine parish by parish inspection, private dwellings treated free, business premises on a time plus material basis carried out by one man employed half time.
Schools	:	No action taken.
Swimming baths and Pools open to the public	:	None in area.

SECTION D

HOUSING

New Houses

Houses completed during year	T Y P E		Average cost per house excl. site works and land	Average rent exclusive of rates
	Prefab Permanent	Permanent		
By Local Authority	-	2	£1,496	23/6d. per week 3 bed/houses
Private Enterprise	-	26		

Houses in course of construction at year end

By Local Authority	-	23		
Private Enterprise	-	21		

Total number of post war houses completed by Local Authority	...	672
Total number of post war houses completed by private enterprise	...	287
Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of year	...	267
Number of applications received for Council houses during the year	...	64
Total number of Council houses in the district prior to 1939	...	322
Total number of houses acquired by Local Authority and renovated	...	15
Total number of occupied Council houses in the district	...	1,017
Total number of occupied houses in the district	...	4,540

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream

Number of premises registered for manufacture and retail	...	Nil
Number of premises registered for manufacture only	...	Nil
Number of premises registered for retail only	...	56
Number of samples taken	...	4
Results of samples	: Grade 1 : 2 Grade 2 : 2	

Ice cream is purchased from National Manufacturers in all cases.

Milk Supply

Dairies (other than dairy farms) and distributors (Section 8 Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949)

Number on Register	:	Dairies	1
		Distributors	15
Number of Inspections	:	Dairies	2
		Distributors	22

Biological Milk Samples

Number of routine bulk samples taken	...	44
Results satisfactory	...	44
Evidence of living Tubercule Bacilli	...	Nil
Evidence of Brucella Abortus	...	Nil

Bacteriological Milk Samples

44 samples of designated "Tuberculin Tested" milk were taken and all proved to be satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)
Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued :

		<u>Pasteurised</u>	<u>Sterilised</u>
Dealer's Licences	...	6	-
Supplementary Licences	...	7	-

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued :

Dealer's Licences	6
Supplementary Licences	8

Meat and other Foods

Number of licensed slaughterhouses in area	...	5
Number of animals slaughtered therein	...	1749
Number of animals examined therein	...	1749
Number of inspections of meat at time of slaughter		3.4%
Number of Knackers yards in area	...	1
Number of visits to Knackers yards	...	5

Meat Stalls

Number of inspections	...	Nil
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Meat Shops, Meat Stores etc

Number of inspections	...	80
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Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale

Number of inspections	...	79
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Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Work in connection with the inspection of food premises continued during the year.

Number of premises inspected	...	39
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	159
Number of Informal Notices served	...	17
Number of Informal Notices complied with	...	14
Number of Informal Notices outstanding at 31st December		3
		1960

MEAT INSPECTION - CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	372	101	-	892	384
Number Inspected	372	101	-	892	384
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses Condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	48	35	-	3	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	12.9	34.6	-	0.3	0.5
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	7	7	-	-	6
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.87	6.9	-	-	1.5
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1960

Disease	Final No. after Correction	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-
Whooping Cough	6	-	-
Dysentery (Sonnei)	6	-	-
Measles	33	-	-
Pneumonia	17	-	5
Erysipelas	4	-	-
Food Poisoning (Salmonella)	2	-	-
Totals	70	-	5

Analysis under Age Groups According to Registrar General's Return 118

Age Group	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery
Under 1 year	-	5	-	-
1 to 2	-	4	-	1
2 to 3	1	3	-	1
3 to 4	3	2	-	-
4 to 5	-	5	-	-
5 to 9	2	13	2	2
10 to 14	-	1	-	-
15 to 24	-	-	-	-
25 and over	-	-	-	2
Totals	6	33	2	6

Age Group	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning (Salmonella)
Under 5 years	4	-	-
5 to 14	2	-	-
15 to 44	5	-	1
45 to 64	3	2	-
65 and over	3	2	1
Totals	17	4	2

Table showing incidence of Notifiable
Diseases in each Parish during year 1960

Parish	Whoop- ing Cough	Measles	Pneu- monia	Scarlet Fever	Erysipe- las	Dysentery (Sonnei)	Food Poison- ing (Sal- monella)
Appleby Magna	1	2	3	-	-	-	-
Bardon	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Chilcote	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Coleorton	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measham	1	2	1	-	3	-	-
Normanton -le-Heath	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	4	17	2	-	-	5	-
Osgathorpe	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Packington	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Ravenstone	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Snarestone	-	3	2	-	-	1	-
Stretton-en -le-Field	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Swannington	-	-	4	2	-	-	-
Swepestone	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	6	33	17	2	4	6	2

The following table shows the incidence of Measles
in each Parish monthly

Year 1960	Appleby Magna	Bardon	Measham	Normanton -le-Heath	Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	Snarestone	Stretton on-le-Field	Sweptstone	Total
January							2		2
February									
March	1		1		1				3
April				2					2
May									
June									
July				1					1
August						1			1
September	1								1
October					2				2
November			1		12	1		1	15
December		3			2	1			6
Totals	2	3	2	3	17	3	2	1	33

Food Poisoning

Two cases of Food Poisoning were notified and were probably Salmonella infection, not Food Poisoning.

Both these cases had been in hospital for other complaints, and it would appear that in the first case the Salmonella infection was acquired in hospital, and it is almost certain the second case was acquired in hospital.

Sonnei Dysentery

A child was notified in another area as suffering from Sonnei Dysentery and the child attended a school in our district. This was about March. It was found that large numbers of children and teachers had been absent from the school with abdominal illness during the year, not only from this school but over a wide area, and this had been going on for some three months. It was decided to investigate the canteen staff as the numbers were so large. One of the members of the canteen staff, not resident in the district, was found incubating the disease. She was, of course, excluded from the canteen until she was absolutely clear.

Only two families of the two cases which were recurrent and severe were kept under observation. All cases eventually cleared.

Another case occurred early in the year. This probably had nothing to do with the earlier epidemic and was probably acquired while on holiday on the continent. This was a mild case.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Number of children who were immunised during the period

1st January - 31st December 1960

Age at 31st December 1960	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946		
Primary Immunis- ation	57	89	11	9	3	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	185	
Booster Inject- ion	-	-	-	-	34	80	12	4	3	3	5	1	2	1	145	

Statement of Particulars appearing in the
Register of Notifications of cases of
Tuberculosis for the year 1960

	Pulmonary		Non-Pul.		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on Register at commencement of year	23	12	5	10	50
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases restored to Register	-	1	-	-	1
Number of cases added to Register and brought to notice other than by formal notification	-	-	-	1	1
Number of cases removed from the register during the year	8	3	-	4	15
Number of cases remaining on the Register at end of year	15	10	5	7	37

Tuberculosis - Year 1960

Causes of Removal from Register

	M A L E S		F E M A L E S		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pul.	Pulmonary	Non-Pul.	
Cured	4	-	3	3	10
Left District	1	-	-	1	2
Died	3	-	-	-	3
Total	8	-	3	4	15

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948

Part I of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

	<u>No. on</u> <u>Register</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written</u> <u>Notices</u>
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	27	18	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	32	-
	<u>39</u>	<u>50</u>	

No. of cases in
which defects were found

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred</u> <u>by H.M.</u> <u>Inspector</u>
Want of cleanliness	5	5	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outworkers (Sections 110 and 111)

Number of Outworkers
in August list required
by Sections 111 (1) (c)

Nil

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch,
Leicestershire.

August, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to submit this my sixth Annual Report for your consideration. The Report covers the year ended 31st. December, 1960.

The year saw the introduction of one new Statute which was of great interest to the department. This was the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. For a long time the law relating to the stationing and use of caravans has been very unsatisfactory and has been difficult to enforce. The new Act places the responsibility on owners of land to obtain the necessary permissions and comply with conditions attached to licences granted by the local authority. The Act sets out model standards as a guide to local authorities, who can attach conditions to licences in order to ensure that satisfactory facilities exist for a supply of drinking water, sanitary accommodation, paving, drainage and fire prevention &c.

The "Standard Grant" provisions of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 have served a very useful purpose. Many more applications have been made for this type of grant compared with applications for Discretionary Grants during previous years, and despite this, the number of applications for Discretionary Grants has not been really affected.

Work in connection with sewers and works affected by mining subsidence continued to take up a considerable amount of time. During the year sewers at Donisthorpe and Swannington continued to have to be emptied by the cesspool emptying machine at very frequent intervals.

In Oakthorpe, sewers were relaid in the Canal Street/ Main Street area due to mining subsidence having caused "backfall" in existing sewers with the result that sewage was standing by the front doors of properties. In addition, preliminary steps in connection with relaying the sewers in Ashby Road, Measham were taken.

Although my department is not at the present time responsible for the erection of new houses, some time has been spent discussing with your private Architects sites at present being developed or about to be developed. In addition, numerous sites in the village of Heather have been investigated with a view to obtaining a site for some dozen houses and an old peoples dwelling. A site is badly needed in this village in order to enable the unfit properties in the parish to be dealt with, and it is hoped at the same time to improve the appearance of the Main Street which at the present time has a very dilapidated appearance due to very dilapidated occupied properties and untidy sites of houses demolished in the past.

COMPLAINTS

Set out below are details of the various complaints which have been received together with a table showing repairs and improvements carried out.

Dwellings rendered fit or defects remedied	60
Complaints received	83
Premises Inspected	107
Groundless complaints	11
Revisits to work in hand	145
Miscellaneous visits	36
Premises at which nuisances abated	93
Informal Notices served	96
Statutory Notices served	3
Damp proof courses inserted	2
Water closets repaired	1
Pan closets repaired	3
Drains relaid, repaired, trapped or ventilated or cleared (does not include sewers)	39
Cesspools cleansed or repaired	5
Chimneys repaired	4
Damp walls remedied	8
Ditches cleaned out	3
Yard paving renewed	15
Food stores provided	2
Sinks renewed	6
Hot water systems repaired	1
Doors repaired	1
Windows repaired or renewed	27
Fireplaces repaired, or new ones provided	7
Plastering repaired	4
Obstructed footpaths cleared	4
Roofs repaired	5
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	8
Floors repaired	10
Smoke nuisances abated	5
Walls repaired	4
Flooding abated	2
Dirty houses cleansed	1
Offensive accumulations removed	6
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	6
Dangerous well top made safe	1

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent control has continued to be carried out by your Rodent Operator who works every other week on these duties. Free treatments have continued at domestic premises and a charge made at business and agricultural holdings.

A total of 538 premises were inspected during the year and 154 premises treated, necessitating a total of 1,154 visits.

FOOD INSPECTION

Work continued in connection with the improvement of food premises and the conditions under which food is sold. Four public houses were modernised, hot water systems, washing facilities, sanitary accommodation, new floors, wall surfaces and ceilings being provided. In addition notices are outstanding on two public houses for hot water supply, washing facilities, improved ventilation etc. One cafe has been modernised, one new works canteen erected and one school canteen improved. Six shops have been improved by provision of hot water etc., and one shop completely modernised.

Slaughterhouses

Further meetings were held in connection with the work necessary to improve slaughterhouses at present in use. Finally following a meeting between the Council and local butchers and representatives from other organisations, it was agreed that only one existing slaughterhouse (at Swannington) would be renovated in addition to the new premises to be constructed at Measham. At the year end the premises at Measham had been completed and were in use.

Ice Cream

Number of premises registered : 56

Number of samples taken : 4

Grade 1 : 2

Grade 2 : 2

All ice cream is purchased by the dealers from large wholesalers of this commodity.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

During the year licences as follows were issued :

Supplementary Licences to sell

"Tuberculin Tested" milk	...	8
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Dealer's Licences to sell

"Tuberculin Tested" milk	...	6
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Supplementary Licences to use special designation "Pasteurised"

...	7
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Dealer's Licences to use special designation "Pasteurised"

...	6
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Dealer's Licence to open and cool

"Tuberculin Tested" milk	...	1
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Routine inspections of distributing vehicles have again continued to be carried out.

During the year the results of 44 samples of milk taken for biological examination and 44 samples for bacteriological examination were received.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The diesel engined vehicle has continued to give very satisfactory service and as a result of 18 months experience I am more than ever convinced that it will be to the Council's advantage to turn over to diesel equipped vehicles as and when existing vehicles require replacement.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Number of inspections of factories	:	31
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NAMING OF STREETS

The houses in the village of Swannington have been numbered and street name plates erected throughout the parish. In addition, street name plates were erected in the parishes of Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe, and Ravenstone.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

As a result of the new Act dealing with moveable dwellings, all vans in the district were visited with a view to determining to what extent they failed to comply with the provisions of the new Act. The Council decided on standard conditions which are to be applicable to all vans in their district, the conditions to be varied in minor respects as individual cases require. Licences in respect of twelve vans were in possession of occupiers at the year end. During the year 35 visits had been made to vans.

NEW DRAINAGE AND CLOSET CONVERSIONS

The policy of giving grants of not more than £10. 0. 0. per closet converted to encourage owners to convert to the water carriage system has continued.

As in previous years a small number of closet conversions together with the provision of septic tanks have been carried out. There has been a slowing down of the number converted in sewered parishes over previous years due to the fact that most of the work in these parishes has now been completed.

New drainage systems laid to the sewer	...	13
New water closets constructed to replace pan closets		19
Additional W.C. accommodation provided	...	1
New drainage to septic tank	...	2
Septic tanks provided	...	2
Pail closets abolished	...	19
Visits of inspection	...	40

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

By the end of the year the major alterations to the Measham Sewage Disposal Works were well under way despite the very wet weather which had made working conditions difficult. The Ravenstone Works continued to give cause for anxiety and measurements were taken of the flow with a view to your Consulting Engineers pushing ahead with the scheme for reconstructing these works.

At the year end further steps were being taken in an effort to get the necessary permission to proceed with the sewerage of Atherstone Road, Measham, which is urgently needed.

During the year an enquiry was held into the proposed Sweptstone/Newton Burgoland scheme and this was approved in principle. The scheme envisages sewage being pumped from Sweptstone to Newton Burgoland and then from Newton Burgoland to the existing Snarestone Works.

Inspection of sewers and ditches and work in hand	51
Blocked sewers cleared	52
Inspections of sewage works and pumping stations	106

WATER SUPPLY

Meetings continued to take place between the various local authorities in the North West part of Leicestershire in connection with the proposed re-grouping of water undertakings. Despite the objections of this and some other Councils, it became obvious that the majority of authorities were prepared to fall in with a scheme for a North West Leicestershire Water Board and very reluctantly the Council informed the Ministry of Health and Local Government that they would fall in with the scheme, although they pointed out that they were still of the opinion that the formation of the Board was not the best way of re-grouping the undertakings in this area.

Number of samples taken for analysis from wells	8
Number of samples satisfactory	1
Number of samples unsatisfactory	7
Number of visits	17

HOUSING

New Buildings, Additions, Extensions, Improvements &c.

New houses by local authority	2
New houses by private enterprise (includes 12 bungalows)	26
New houses drained to sewer	14
New houses drained to septic tanks	12
New houses with water from public main	28

New houses with water closets	28
Garages completed	42
Workshops	9
Sports pavilions	1
Office accommodation	4
Farm buildings	2
Bathrooms and hot water systems	11
Bedrooms	4
Pails to water closets	5
Miscellaneous	17
Visits of inspection	261
Visits to Council property under construction/ or renovation	217
Two cottages converted to one	2
Alterations to public houses	5
House divided into two dwellings	1
Booster Station	1
Slaughter house	1

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947

Administration in connection with development under the Act is carried out by the Council in conjunction with the Western Area Sub-Committee of the Leicestershire County Council.

During the year 198 applications were made in respect of permission to develop.

BUILDING BYELAWS

During the year 197 plans were submitted for consideration under the Building Byelaws.

LOANS FOR HOUSE PURCHASE

34 properties were inspected during the year as a result of requests for loans in connection with house purchase, and in the majority of cases loans were approved.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

These grants are discretionary, Councils being themselves able to decide as a matter of policy whether to make grants or not.

It has been the Council's policy to give 50% towards the cost of work eligible for grant.

18 applications were approved as against 22 the previous year. Again the applicants were mainly owner/occupiers of property rather than owners of rented property.

Number of applications approved	18
Number of works completed	17
Total amount paid by way of grant	£3,656.
Bathrooms	15
Hot water systems	15
Bedrooms provided	2
Houses into two	1
Wash hand basin provided	15
Sinks provided	7
Water closets provided	15
Pails abolished	7
Drainage	15
Paving	6
New windows	32
Staircases	2
New floors	18
Fireplaces	16
New food stores	7
Septic tanks provided	7
Damp proof courses provided	7
Visits and revisits	198

STANDARD GRANTS

Standard Grants are not discretionary, all local authorities must make grants where the property has a life of not less than 15 years. The amounts which must be given are set out in the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, and grant can only be given in order to provide certain amenities, i.e., (a) a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom, (b) a wash hand basin, (c) a hot water supply, (d) a water closet in or contiguous to the dwelling, and (e) satisfactory facilities for the storage of food.

Applications approved	49
Works completed	32
Total paid by way of grant	£3,077. 15. 11.
New bathrooms	23
Hot water systems	26
Water closets	11
Wash hand basins	27
Food stores	4
Pails abolished	7
Visits and revisits	186

RENT ACT, 1957

Rent Restrictions Regulations, 1957

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	4
Refusals to issue Certificates	-
Certificates issued in respect of some defects only	4
Certificates issued in respect of all defects	-
Undertakings given by landlords to carry out repairs	2
Undertakings not accepted by Local Authority	-
Certificates of Disrepair issued	2
Applications for cancellation of Certificates	30
Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	20
Decisions of Local Authority to cancel despite objection	1
Certificates cancelled	11
Revisits of inspection	78

Defects remedied

Wall plaster repaired	1
Boilers repaired	1
Sinks repaired or renewed	1
Decorations renewed	8
Ceiling plaster repaired	2
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	4
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	2
Doors and frames repaired	3
Steps repaired	3
Windows repaired	51
Roofs repaired	3
Floors repaired	6
Chimney stacks repaired	5
Fireplaces and/or cooker repaired	11
Walls repaired	8
Water closets repaired	6
Paving repaired	4
Coal stores repaired	10
Boundary walls repaired	2

SLUM CLEARANCE

Steady progress continued with the representation of unfit properties, 94 visits of inspection being made.

Closing Orders

Dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders made	2
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Demolition Orders

Dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders made	22
Number of dwellings demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	9
Dwellings demolished following unfit conditions	1
Number of persons rehoused	31
Dwellings where undertakings to renovate were accepted	-
Demolition Orders revoked	1
Closing Orders revoked and Demolition Orders made	1

RECONDITIONING OF PROPERTY

Work in connection with which the Council are giving financial assistance proceeded slowly at the Almshouses at Ravenstone, Coleorton and Appleby Magna.

At Ravenstone a building comprising 26 houses is being reconstructed internally into 20 self-contained flats, each with bathroom, hot water system, internal water closet &c. The building is of historic interest and grant is also being made towards restoration works by the Ministry of Works.

At Appleby Magna, a block of five houses is being provided with modern amenities.

At Coleorton there were 6 flats completely lacking in modern amenities. The new scheme provides for 5 flats, 3 on the ground floor with a shared water closet and bathroom, and 2 upstairs with a shared water closet and bathroom; there will be a common wash house. Each flat is being provided with a sink with an electric water heater over, new floors, pantry &c., together with a new drainage system.

May I again express my thanks to you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council for the consideration you have shown during the year, my appreciation to Doctor Segerdal, the Clerk of the Council and the Accountant.

I would also thank the members of my department for their ever ready assistance and conscientiousness.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

C. S. Curtis

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